

TESTIMONY NOTES

Some 30 to 40 people -- officers in the military services, Defense Department civilian employees (including Ellsberg) and a variety of outside consultants -- worked on the Pentagon Papers study from the time it was commissioned in June 1967 until it was forwarded to the Secretary (Clifford) on 15 January 1969, though the bulk of the work seems to have been completed by the fall of 1968. This compendium, hence, is the fruit of up to 18 months of labor by a fairly large task force of governmental specialists or specialized consultants with a fishing license from the Secretary of Defense and authority to call for documentary material at least from all components of the Defense Department. Such a compendium simply could not have been assembled by outsiders without the time, the place, the authorizations and the resources available to those who in fact pulled it together.

Gelb's transmittal note makes his point even more forcefully. For one thing, he comments "we never used these (open -- i.e., "newspapers, periodicals and books") to supplant the classified documents, but only to supplement them." Later on in his note, Gelb refers to a total of 36 people who worked on the task force (i.e., 36

professionals) "with an average of four months per man." This makes 144-man months or 12-man years. Gelb also notes that "Mr. McNamara gave the task force full access to OSD files , and the task force received access to CIA materials , and some use of State Department cables and memoranda."

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I get fairly extensively quoted in Volume IV C 7 (A) -- The Air War in North Vietnam, Volume I, see pages 1093-95, 1099, 1104 and 1168-69.

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